Politics and Electric Industry Restructuring: Prospect for Federal Renewable and Distributed Generation Policies

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#### Introduction

Will the November elections have a significant impact on the future of federal policies for renewable and distributed electric generation?

## **Topics of Discussion**

- Current political climate and status of the races for the White House, House, and Senate
- Potential impact of election outcomes on federal electric restructuring legislation
- Reliability concerns and state programs as factors
- Future prospects

#### **Political Past**

- Democratic House past 40 years,58 of last 67 years
- Democratic Senate 34 of last 40 years, 52 of last 67 years
- Republican President 16 of last 20 years

# Political Equation - Divided Govt

- Republican/Foreign Policy
- Democrat/Domestic Policy

#### Post Cold War

- Politics of Economics
- Politics of the Middle

#### The 1990s

- D's lose 50 House incumbents, R's lose 8
- D's lose 33 open seats, R's lose 12
- D's fall from 61% to 47% of House
- D's lose 11 seats and control in Senate

## **Today**

- House: R's have edge 223/212
- Senate: R's control 55/45

## **Party Affiliation**

- 34% Democrat
- 28% Republican
- 38% Independent

#### **White House**

- Bush 46%
- Gore 45%

## **Electoral College**

- Bush 269
- Gore 269

## **New England**

- Me, VT, NH, Mass, RI, Conn.,
- Gore 35
- Bush 0

#### Northeast

- Penn, NY, NJ
- Gore 48
- Bush 23

#### **Mid Atlantic**

- MD, Del, D.C.
- Gore 16
- Bush 0

#### **Great Lakes**

- OH, MI, IN, ILL, WI
- Bush 51
- Gore 33

#### **Plains States**

- ND, SD, Neb, Kan, Mis, IA, MN
- Bush 28
- Gore 17

#### South/Southwest

- TN, LA, AR, KY, WVA, TX, FL, OK, Miss, AL, GA, SC, NC
- Bush 137
- Gore 39

#### **Mountain West**

- MT, Wy, CO, UT, NV, ID
- Bush 27
- Gore 5

#### **Far West**

- CA, OR, WA, AK, HI
- Gore 76
- Bush 3

#### House

- Seats in Play
  - ♦ D's 6
  - ♦ R's 12
  - ◆ D's must take 11 of 18 races to gain control of House

#### **Senate**

- 13 competitive races
- D's may pick up 1-5 seats
- D's need 6 seats to control (or 5 seats and W.H.)

### **Key Senate Races**

- R Incumbents: Roth, Abraham,
  Grams, Ashcroft, Burns, Santorum,
  Chafee, Gorton
- D Incumbents: Robb
- Open Seats: FL, Neb, NV, NY

## **Race Summary**

- W.H. toss up
- Senate lean R
- House toss up

## Electricity at the W.H.

Gore vs. Bush

#### V.P. Gore

- Administrations Bill
  - ◆ RPS
  - **♦** SBC
  - ◆ Net Metering
  - ◆ Interconection
  - ◆ Disclosure

#### Gov. Bush

- NOX/SOX Cap and Trade
- RPS
- 50% Gas Generation
- Disclosure/Green Power

## **Political Support**

- Gore climate policy/enviro lobby
- Bush gas and renewable constituency
- Gore = Bush

#### **House - Barton**

- REPI Program Authorization
- Clarify state RPS authority
- Interconnection
- net metering

#### Senate - Murkowski

- Leave renewable and distributed generation policies to states
- Clarify state authority for SBCs

## 107th Congress

- Reliability
  - ◆ interconnection/net metering
- State Programs
  - **♦ SBC**
  - ◆ RPS
  - ◆ Disclosure

# **State Programs**

Maine	RPS		Disclose
NM		SBC	Disclose
OR		SBC	Disclose
TX	RPS		Disclose
CA		SBC	Disclose
Conn	RPS	SBC	Disclose
ILL		SBC	Disclose
Mass	RPS	SBC	Disclose

# **State Programs**

MN		SBC	
WI	RPS	SBC	
MT		SBC	Disclose
NJ	RPS		Disclose
NV	RPS		Disclose
NY		SBC	Disclose
RI	RPS	SBC	Disclose
PA	RPS	SBC	Disclose

#### Conclusion

- Next Congress will move legislation
- President and States will lead push for renewable and distributed generation
- Reliability concerns push action and improve conditions for distributed power and energy storage applications